Performance of HMT

3282. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the performance in terms of turnover and profit/loss earned by Hindustan Machines Tools during the last three years and first six months of current financial year;

(b) whether the performance of these units is as per the targets fixed; and

(c) if not, the corrective measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). A statement is attached.

(c) The following measures have been adopted to improve the performance of HMT:-

- Production only against firm order.
- Market oriented manufacture.
- ISO 9000 certification leading to total quality management.
- Running of critical machines in three shifts.
- Out-sourcing of low value items.
- Modification of machines for watch companents.
- Giving improved services to customers.
- Periodically introducing new series of watches.
- Reduction of manpower through Voluntary Retirement Scheme.
- Formation of Joint Ventures.
- Reduction of inventory and sundry debtors.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in crores)

	Turnover		Profit/(Loss)	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
1993-94	957.00	613.73	5.30	(120.24)
1994-95	950.00	728.73	(28.10)	(79.20)
1995-96	965.00	832.60	0.35	(55.89)
1996-97 (upto Sept.96)	460.72	383.01*	(29.10)	(46.63)

* Provisional.

Rural Financial Institutions

3283. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need to reinstitute the Rural Financial Institutions functioning in different States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Under the multi-agency approach, credit in rural areas is dispensed through a net work of rural branches of commercial banks. Regional Rural Banks and Co-operative Credit Institutions. Further, with a view to further strengthening the institutional mechanism for promoting rural savings as well as for the provision of credit for viable economic activities in the local areas, it has been decided to allow the establishment of new local area banks in the private sector. This institutional infrastructure is considered adequate to meet the effective demand of credit in rural areas.

Task Force on Decline in Exports

3284. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high level meeting of the Task Force comprising the Revenue and Commerce Secretaries was held on October 18, 1996 to look into the reasons for downslide in exports;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any concrete measures in this regard have been worked out; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d). No Sir. Neither any such meeting has taken placed between Revenue and Commerce Secretaries on October 18, 1996, nor any Task Force comprising the Revenue and Commerce Secretaries has been constituted as per available information. However, Revenue Secretary and Commerce Secretary are closely monitoring exports and taking the necessary steps to boost export performance.

11.15 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till fourteen of the clock.

14.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at One minute past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*)

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Papers be laid on the Table first. Afterwards we will take it up. Now Papers to be laid.